

Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 EB-08 TRSE-00 FPC-01 /020 W
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R 080528Z SEP 77
FM AMCONSUL BOMBAY
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7597
INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMCONSUL MADRAS

UNCLAS BOMBAY 2159

E. O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ENRG, BEXP, BTIO, IN
SUBJ: MAJOR PROJECT: TATA ELECTRIC COMPANIES' TROMBAY
THERMAL POWER PLANT EXPANSION

REF : 10 FAM 164

1. MR. V.P. THAKOR, CHIEF ENGINEER, TATA ELECTRIC COMPANIES (TEC), TATA VIDYUT KARYALAYA, MURZBAN ROAD, BOMBAY 400 001 CONFIRMED THE RECENT PRESS REPORTS THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA (GOI) HAS CLEARED HIS FIRM'S LONG PENDING PROJECT TO ADD A 500 MW THERMAL POWER PLANT TO ITS EXISTING POWER SYSTEM AT TROMBAY, NEAR BOMBAY. THIS WILL BE TEC'S FIFTH POWER UNIT AT TROMBAY, THE TOTAL CAPACITY OF THE EXISTING FOUR UNITS BEING 337.5 MW (THREE UNITS OF 62.5 MW EACH AND ONE OF 150 MW). THE FOLLOWING PROJECT DATA WAS PROVIDED BY THAKOR.

2. TOTAL COST OF THE PROJECT IS ESTIMATED AT RS.1,750 MILLION (\$198.86 MILLION). WORLD BANK FINANCE TO THE EXTENT OF \$100 MILLION IS UNDER NEGOTIATION. A WORLD BANK TEAM VISITED TEC THERMAL PLANT IN TROMBAY LAST JULY AND AUGUST. THAKOR EXPECTS THE LOAN TO BE APPROVED BY NOVEMBER 1977.

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3. TEC PLANS TO FLOAT GLOBAL TENDERS, SOON AFTER THE LOAN APPROVAL IS IN HAND, FOR EQUIPMENT SUCH AS BOILERS, CONDENSORS, PUMPS, VARIOUS TYPES OF INDUSTRIAL FANS, COAL HANDLING MACHINERY AND ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT, EXCEPT THE 500 MW GENERATOR.

4. ACCORDING TO THAKOR, THE TURBINE GENERATOR WILL BE PURCHASED FROM GOI-OWNED BHARAT HEAVY ELECTRICALS LTD. (BHEL), WHICH RECENTLY CONCLUDED LICENSING AGREEMENT WITH WEST GERMAN KRAFT WORK UNION, A SUBSIDIARY OF SIEMENS, FOR MANUFACTURE OF 300 MW AND UP TURBINES IN INDIA. HOWEVER, SINCE BHEL CAPABILITIES IN SUPER THERMAL RANGE ARE YET TO BE DEVELOPED (PRESENT RANGE IS UPTO 210 MW), IT IS LIKELY TO IMPORT THE GENERATOR FROM ITS COLLABORATOR.

5. THE BOILER FOR THE PROPOSED PLANT WILL BE OF MULTIPLE FUEL TYPE TO PROVIDE SCOPE FOR USE OF OPTIONAL FEEDSTOCKS OIL, NATURAL GAS (FROM OFFSHORE BOMBAY HIGH) OR RESIDUARY FUELS FROM LOCAL REFINERIES. TEC'S CURRENT OPERATIONS ARE COAL/OIL BASED.

6. THE PROJECT IS EXPECTED TO COMMENCE BEFORE THE END OF THE CURRENT YEAR AND IS SCHEDULED TO BE COMPLETED IN OVER FOUR YEARS. INCIDENTALLY, THIS IS LIKELY TO BE THE FIRST 500 MW UNIT TO BE INSTALLED IN INDIA.

7. ACCORDING TO THAKOR, TEC PROPOSAL WAS APPROVED TO SUPPLEMENT MAHARASHTRA'S INCREASING POWER NEEDS. THE PROJECT WAS HELD UP TIL NOW IN KEEPING WITH GOI POLICY OF EXPANDING POWER GENERATION ONLY THROUGH STATE-OWNED ELECTRICITY BOARDS. THE EXCEPTION IN THIS CASE WAS APPARENTLY MADE IN RECOGNITION OF TEC'S CAPABILITIES TO UNDERTAKE THE PROJECT AS WELL AS TO COVER UP ANTICIPATED

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POWER SHORTAGE IN THE INDUSTRIALIZED BOMBAY-PUNE AREA. POWER GENERATED AT PRESENT BY TEC IS DISTRIBUTED THROUGH A COMMON LOAD DESPATCH SYSTEM OF TEC, THE MAHARASHTRA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD AND A SMALL POWER HOUSE OWNED BY INDIAN RAILWAYS.

8. ACTION REQUESTED: PLEASE DISSEMINATE THE FOREGOING PRELIMINARY INFORMATION AMONG APPROPRIATE AMERICAN FIRMS. INTERESTED PARTIES SHOULD COMMUNICATE WITH MR. THAKOR DIRECTLY FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION. CONGEN WILL CLOSELY WATCH DEVELOPMENTS OF THIS PROJECT AND CONTINUE TO REPORT GLOBAL TENDERS AND OTHER PROGRESS.

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 08-Sep-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Subject: MAJOR PROJECT: TATA ELECTRIC COMPANIES\ TROMBAY THERMAL POWER PLANT EXPANSION
TAGS: ENRG, BEXP, BTIO, IN
To: STATE
Type: TE
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